

# IDAHO STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM

## PILOT / ESCORT VEHICLE & TRAVEL TIME REQUIREMENTS



APRIL 2008

ROUTE COLOR CODE	ONLY OVER WIDTH	NUMBER & PLACEMENT OF PILOT CARS	ONLY OVER LENGTH	NUMBER & PLACEMENT OF PILOT CARS	OVER WIDTH & LENGTH	NUMBER & PLACEMENT OF PILOT CARS	TRAVEL ON FRIDAYS AFTER 2:00 PM	TRAVEL ON SATURDAY OR SUNDAY	DAYLIGHT TRAVEL	TRAVEL 24 HOURS PER DAY	HOLIDAY TRAVEL
---	8'-07"- 10'-00" 10'-01"- 12'-06"	F 1 B 2	OVER 75'	F 1 F 1	OVER 75' & 10'-01"- 12'-06"	B 2 B 2	NO NO	NO NO	YES	YES NO	NO NO
---	8'-07"- 10'-00" 10'-01"- 12'-00" 12'-01"- 14'-00" 14'-01"- 14'-06"	F 1 B 2	OVER 100'	F 1 F 1 F 1	OVER 100' & 8'-07"- 10'-00" 10'-01"- 12'-00" 12'-01"- 14'-00" 14'-01"- 14'-06"	F 1 F 1 B 2 B 2	YES YES YES YES	YES YES YES YES	YES YES YES YES	YES NO NO NO	YES NO NO NO
---	8'-07"- 10'-00" 10'-01"- 15'-00" 15'-01"- & OVER	R 1					YES YES YES	YES YES YES	YES YES YES	YES NO NO	YES NO NO

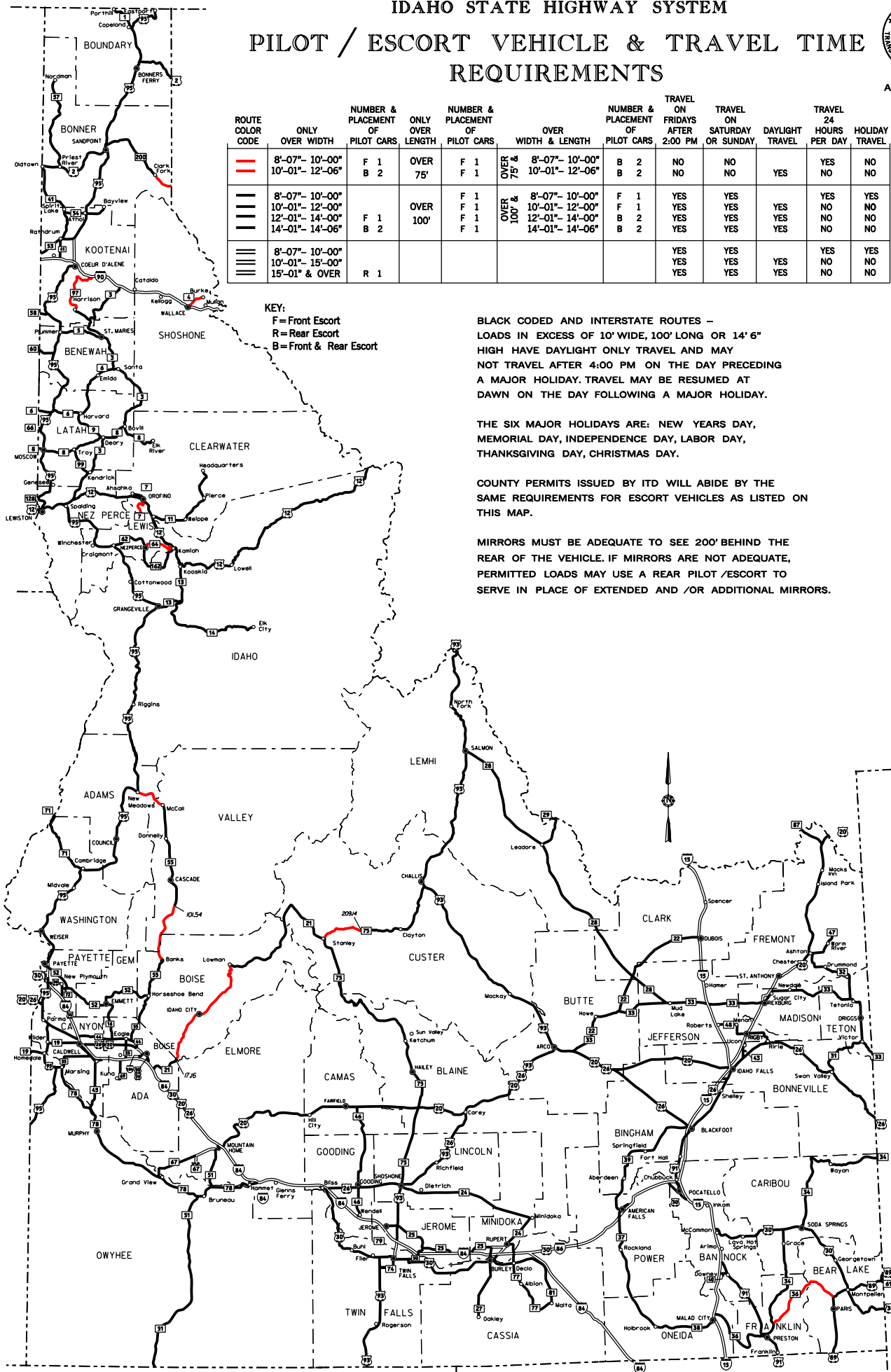
KEY:  
F=Front Escort  
R=Rear Escort  
B=Front & Rear Escort

BLACK CODED AND INTERSTATE ROUTES -  
LOADS IN EXCESS OF 10' WIDE, 100' LONG OR 14' 6"  
HIGH HAVE DAYLIGHT ONLY TRAVEL AND MAY  
NOT TRAVEL AFTER 4:00 PM ON THE DAY PRECEDING  
A MAJOR HOLIDAY. TRAVEL MAY BE RESUMED AT  
DAWN ON THE DAY FOLLOWING A MAJOR HOLIDAY.

THE SIX MAJOR HOLIDAYS ARE: NEW YEARS DAY,  
MEMORIAL DAY, INDEPENDENCE DAY, LABOR DAY,  
THANKSGIVING DAY, CHRISTMAS DAY.

COUNTY PERMITS ISSUED BY ITD WILL ABIDE BY THE  
SAME REQUIREMENTS FOR ESCORT VEHICLES AS LISTED ON  
THIS MAP.

MIRRORS MUST BE ADEQUATE TO SEE 200' BEHIND THE  
REAR OF THE VEHICLE. IF MIRRORS ARE NOT ADEQUATE,  
PERMITTED LOADS MAY USE A REAR PILOT /ESCORT TO  
SERVE IN PLACE OF EXTENDED AND /OR ADDITIONAL MIRRORS.



## CHAPTER 12

## SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

### 12.1 PURPOSE AND LEGAL AUTHORITY

This chapter states the requirements for pilot/escort vehicles, oversize load signs, warning flags, and lighting and is adopted under the authority of Section 49-1004 and 49-1011, Idaho Code.

### 12.2 LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS FOR AFTER DARK TRAVEL

Overdimensional vehicles and/or loads that are permitted to travel during hours of darkness shall be required to display lights to mark the extremities of the vehicle and/or load, and shall be in addition to those clearance lights required on legal size vehicles when traveling at night.

#### Standards for Lights on Oversize Vehicles and/or Loads

- a. Lights that mark the extremities are only required on overdimensional vehicles traveling after dark. (Dark is defined as one-half (½) hour after sunset to one-half (½) hour before sunrise.)
- b. The lights must be visible from a minimum of five hundred (500) feet.
- c. The lights shall be steady burning.
- d. The color of the lights shall be as follows:
  - **Amber:** Lights on extremities visible from the front of the vehicle and/or load and lights on extremities in the middle or near the front of the vehicle and/or load.
  - **Red:** Lights on extremities visible at the rear or near the rear of the vehicle and/or load.

#### Standards for Lights on Rear Overhang

- a. Lights are required when rear overhang exceeds the end of the vehicle by four (4) feet or more.
  - If the overhang is two (2) feet wide or less only one light is required on the end of the overhang.
  - If the overhang is over two (2) feet wide, two (2) lights are required on the end of the overhang to show the maximum width of the overhang.

#### Standards for Warning Lights on Towing Vehicle

- a. Amber flashing lights displayed on a towing vehicle operating at night, shall be mounted above the cab and meet the following:
  - Rotating or flashing beacon visible from a minimum of five hundred (500) feet.

### 12.3 FLAGGING REQUIREMENTS

Warning flags for oversize vehicles and/or loads, excluding extra-length vehicle combinations, shall be marked by warning flags meeting the following:

- a. Warning flags are required on all overwidth vehicles and/or loads and when the rear overhang exceeds the end of the vehicle by four (4) feet or more.
- b. Size - Minimum size of flags is twelve (12) inches by twelve (12) inches.
- c. Color – Red or Fluorescent Orange.
- d. Placement of Flags – On overwidth vehicles and/or loads, flags shall be placed at the four corners and/or extremities of the vehicle and/or load as follows:

Front – Fastened to each front corner of the vehicle and/or load if it exceeds legal width.

Rear – Fastened to each rear corner of the vehicle and/or load if it exceeds legal width.

Side – Fastened to mark any extremity, when extremity is wider than the front or the rear of the vehicle and/or load.

Overhang -- If the overhang is two (2) feet wide or less only one flag is required on the end of the overhang. If the overhang is over two (2) feet wide, two (2) flags are required on the end of the overhang to show the maximum width of the overhang.

### 12.4 SIGNING REQUIREMENTS OF TOWING VEHICLES

Oversize load signs shall meet the following specifications:

- a. **Dimensions** – Eighteen (18) inches high by seven (7) feet wide, letter height ten (10) inches, letter type standard series C, stroke width one and five-eighths (1 5/8) inch, black letters on yellow background.

**b. Displaying Signs** – Signs shall be displayed on the front or rooftop of the towing vehicle and the rear of the oversize load. Shall be displayed on the front and back or rooftop of the self-propelled oversize vehicle.

**c. When Signs are Required** – Oversize load signs shall be required on all vehicles and/or loads exceeding legal width. Signs shall not be displayed when the vehicle is empty and of legal dimensions.

## **12.5 PILOT/ESCORT VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS**

Pilot/escort vehicle(s) shall be furnished by the permittee and shall be either passenger car(s), light truck(s) or vehicle(s) authorized by the Vehicle Size & Weight Specialist. The light truck(s) used as pilot/escort vehicle(s) shall not be loaded in such a manner as to cause confusion to the public as to which vehicle is being escorted. Vehicles towing trailers shall not qualify as pilot/escort vehicles.

### **Pilot/Escort Sign Requirements**

a. Oversize Load Signs: All pilot/escort vehicles while escorting an oversize load shall display a sign on the rooftop of the vehicle having the words OVERSIZE LOAD. Such signs shall not be displayed and shall be considered illegal except when the pilot/escort vehicle is actually escorting an oversize load.

b. Dimensions: Ten (10) inches high by five (5) feet wide, type Standard series B, eight (8) inch high letters, one (1) inch stroke width, and black letters on yellow background.

### **Pilot/Escort Vehicle Lighting Requirements**

a. Flashing or rotating amber lights displayed on the pilot/escort vehicle shall be mounted at each end of the required OVERSIZE LOAD sign above the roofline of the vehicle and be visible from the front and rear of the pilot/escort vehicle. These lights shall meet the minimum standards outlined under oversize vehicle and/or load lighting requirements.

- **As an alternate**, a pilot/escort vehicle may display one (1) rotating or flashing amber beacon visible from a minimum of five hundred (500) feet, mounted above the roofline and visible from the front and rear of the pilot/escort vehicle.

### **Pilot/Escort Vehicle Equipment**

A pilot/escort vehicle shall carry the following items of equipment when escorting an overlegal vehicle and/or load:

- Standard eighteen (18) inch STOP & SLOW paddle sign.
- Three (3) bi-directional emergency reflective triangles.
- A minimum of one (1) five (5) pound B,C, fire extinguisher.
- A reflectorized orange vest, shirt, or jacket, which must be worn by the operator when working out of the vehicle.
- Two (2) additional oversize load signs.
- Non-metallic Height Pole for determining vertical clearances (when required)
- Valid driver's license.
- Two-Way Radio – On all movements requiring a pilot/escort vehicle, both the towing unit and the pilot/escort vehicle(s) shall be equipped with two-way radio equipment licensed under Federal Communications Commission regulations adequate to provide reliable voice communication between the drivers thereof at all times during the movement of the escorted vehicle and/or load. Transmitting and receiving capabilities of the radio equipment used shall be adequate to provide the required communication over a minimum distance of one-half (1/2) mile separation under conditions normally encountered along the proposed route.

Radio communication shall be open and monitored between the pilot/escort vehicle(s) and oversize vehicle and/or load at all times during movement.

### **Pilot/Escort Vehicle Placement**

- Front Pilot/Escort Vehicle** — The movement of an oversize vehicle and/or load shall be preceded by a pilot/escort vehicle on those sections of highway where the vehicle and/or load cannot travel within its proper travelway lane.
- Rear Pilot/Escort Vehicle** — As authorized by Section 49-940, Idaho Code, when the width of a load obstructs the driver's view to the rear or when traffic control is required, a rear pilot/escort shall be required to accompany the oversize load and to communicate with the driver of the permitted load concerning impeded overtaking traffic for the purpose of providing passing opportunity.
- Advance Pilot/Escort Vehicle** — A third pilot/escort, may be required when the load is of such extreme dimensions for the route of travel as to require holding opposing traffic at turnouts and intersections to provide for passage of the load.
- First Movement from the Forest** — A pilot/escort vehicle is not required on the first movement from the forest of tree-length logs or poles if the overall length does not exceed one hundred ten (110) feet. Secondary movements must comply with the requirements stated on the Pilot/Escort Vehicle and Travel Time Requirements map.

e. Spacing — Approximately one thousand (1,000) feet shall be maintained in rural areas between the escorting vehicle and any oversize load. This spacing may be reduced in urban areas when necessary to provide traffic control for turning movements.

## 12.6 CONVOY OF OVERLEGAL LOADS

a. Convoing Oversize Loads: Oversize loads which individually would require a pilot/escort vehicle, except overwidth manufactured homes, office trailers, may be permitted to travel in convoy with pilot/escort vehicles in front of and behind the convoy, but such convoys shall not exceed four (4) oversize loads or vehicles between pilot/escort vehicles. Maximum width of units in a convoy shall be limited to fourteen (14) feet six (6) inches on the interstate system or on black-coded routes of the Pilot/Escort Vehicle and Travel Time Requirements Map and to twelve (12) feet six (6) inches on red-coded routes of the Pilot/Escort Vehicle and Travel Time Requirements Map. Maximum length of units in a convoy shall be limited to one hundred (100) feet on red-coded and black-coded routes of the Pilot/Escort Vehicle and Travel Time Requirements Map and one hundred twenty (120) feet on the interstate system.

## 14.8 WIDTH LIMITATION ON TWO (2) LANE ROAD

A spring breakup weight restriction to less than legal weight shall automatically place a restriction on width allowed by overlegal permit. On any section of highway restricted to less than legal weight, the maximum width by overlegal permit shall be restricted to twelve (12) feet six (6) inches during the period of the weight restriction.

## 16.4 OVERLENGTH RESTRICTIONS

Permitted oversize vehicles which exceed four (4) feet of front overhang on any vehicle in the combination, are restricted to daylight travel only on two (2) lane, two (2) way highways.

**Hazardous Travel Conditions Restrictions:** Extreme caution in the operation of overweight/oversize vehicle combinations shall be exercised when hazardous conditions exist. The movement of overlegal vehicles and/or loads by overlegal permit shall be prohibited and otherwise valid permits shall automatically become invalid enroute when travel conditions become hazardous due to ice, snow or frost; when visibility is restricted to less than five hundred (500) feet by fog, dust, smoke, smog, or other atmospheric conditions.

**Enforcement Authority:** Enforcement personnel that are responsible for any section of the highway are authorized to carry out enforcement action for violations involving overlegal permit operations and may delay movement of overlegal vehicles and/or loads for weather restrictions, safety of the public, etc.

**Heavy Commuter Traffic Restrictions -** Vehicles and/or loads in excess of 13' wide are prohibited from movement on all state highways (including interstates) during heavy commuter traffic. Oversize permitted vehicles allowed to operate during hours of heavy commuter traffic shall be restricted to the furthest right hand lane. The following areas have heavy commuter traffic restrictions in place:

Location	HWY	Direction	MP/Location	MP/Location	Hours
Pocatello Area	I15	NB&SB	MP 59 Inkom POE	MP 80	6:30 to 8:30 am
Pocatello Area	I15	SB&NB	MP 80	MP 59 Inkom POE	4 to 6 pm
Caldwell/Boise	I84	EB	MP25 Jct SH44	MP 57 Gowen RD	6:30 to 8:30 am
Boise/Caldwell	I84	WB	MP 57 Gowen RD	MP 25 Jct SH44	4 to 6 pm
Chubbuck/Pocatello	I86	EB	MP 52	MP 63 Jct I15	6:30 to 8:30 am
Pocatello/Chubbuck	I86	WB	MP 63 Jct I15	MP 52	4 to 6 pm
CDA Area	I90	EB&WB	MP 8 Huetter	MP 15 CDA City Limits	6:30 to 8:30 am
CDA Area	I90	WB&EB	MP 15 CDA City Limits	MP 8 Huetter	4 to 6 pm
Emmett/Boise	SH16	SB	MP 14 Jct SH52	MP 0 Jct SH44	6:30 to 8:30 am
Boise/Emmett	SH16	NB	MP 0 SH44	MP 14 Jct SH52	4 to 6 pm
Caldwell/Boise	SH44	EB	MP 0 Jct I84	MP 22 Gary Lane	6:30 to 8:30 am
Boise/Caldwell	SH44	WB	MP MP 22 Gary Lane	MP 0 to Jct I84	4 to 6 pm
Eagle/Meridian	SH55	SB	MP 11 Jct I84	MP 18 Jct SH44	6:30 to 8:30 am
Meridian/Eagle	SH55	NB	MP 18 Jct SH44	MP 11 Jct I84	4 to 6 pm
Kuna/Meridian	SH69	NB	MP 2 Near Kuna	MP 9.34 Jct I84	6:30 to 8:30 am
Meridian/Kuna	SH69	SB	MP 9.34 Jct I84	MP 2 Near Kuna	4 to 6 pm
Caldwell/Boise	US20/26	EB	MP 24 Jct I84	MP 47 Garden City	6:30 to 8:30 am
Boise/Caldwell	US20/26	WB	MP 47 Garden City	MP 24 to Jct I84	4 to 6 pm
Twin Falls Area	US93	SB&NB	Perine Bridge	JCT US30/93	6:30 to 8:30 am
Twin Falls Area	US93	NB&SB	JCT US30/93	Perine Bridge	4 to 6 pm
CDA Area	US95	SB	MP 434 Hayden	MP 429 I90B	6:30 to 8:30 am
CDA Area	US95	NB	MP 429 I90B	MP 434 Hayden	4 to 6 pm